

## Brown and Dausser Lumber Yard

I don't know whether much has been written about the Brown and Dausser Lumber Yard, but I thought it might be of interest to describe my recollections of it since my father, Harvey Moore, worked there from 1925 to 1937. <sup>also</sup> And as a girl, I was in and out of that office a great deal.

Mr W. J. Brown of Fullerton was really the owner. Mr Dausser sold out his share almost immediately. At the time we moved to Brea there were three lumber yards under Mr Brown: <sup>the</sup> the main one in Fullerton, one in La Habra under the direction of Mr. McGill, (Mrs McGill was the Browns' daughter) <sup>and</sup> and the third company was here in Brea, at the north west corner of Ash and Orange Streets.

I don't know the true dimensions of the yard, but it extended from the corner at Orange street to the alley <sup>on</sup> to the west. But it extended <sup>about the same</sup> south on Orange, possibly the same distance. <sup>at the</sup> In the Ash corner next to the alley was occupied by the Bird and Allen Company, Reg builders, I believe.

Of course, the office was the area <sup>in which</sup> I spent <sup>the</sup> most time - many hours.

<sup>of the</sup> The building was probably called Craftsman <sup>research had</sup> with wooden siding and a large window in front. The entrance was from Ash

treet. Upon opening the door you saw a little waiting area with wicker chairs. Next came the business area with a high counter running to the south. An aisle went past it to the door on the west, leading to the yard outside. Most people went that direction and after ordering - ~~went~~ <sup>continued</sup> on outside.

On the east side of the counter was a tall wooden ~~stand~~ <sup>high</sup> stand-up desk with a tall stool. That is where my father worked since he was the book-keeper.

There was another small office to the south where Jack Collins, the manager, worked. Also, there was a walk-in safe. Outside in the yard were two men, Frank Stauter <sup>and</sup> Mac Senn. The lumber stand in the middle of the yard, with a covered shed at one side for sacks of cement.

There was a great demand for lumber and cement at that time because the rigs were made of lumber, and the walking beams of solid wood, ~~and~~ <sup>were</sup> very large. My father told us many times how many square feet of lumber, ~~but~~ <sup>were used,</sup> unfortunately I can't remember now. And the cement was used, ~~a~~ <sup>a</sup> great deal of it, ~~in~~ <sup>on</sup> the wells.

But later when the Depression hit, there were no <sup>longer</sup> yard men. My father did it all and delivered everything with the big truck.

Jack Collins came <sup>to Bred</sup> in 1915 and joined the Chamber of Commerce, <sup>and was a</sup> charter member of the Lions Club. He worked for Mr. Brown 23 years. Mr. Collins was a very likeable ~~man~~ <sup>person</sup>

~~but~~ <sup>but</sup> out in the town most of the time since he

was the  
 Really a public relations man. He loved  
 prize fights and took part in everything in  
 Brea. He always had a big cigar in his  
 mouth and the office reeked of cigar smoke.  
 He and his wife lived in a house connected  
 to the lumber yard. They had two boys:  
 John, the younger, was my age. I cannot  
 remember the older one ~~was~~  
 the name of

Catherine Moore Seiler

BREA, CALIF.  
 PHONE 81-W

LA HABRA, CALIF.  
 PHONE 90-W

**BROWN & DAUSER CO.**  
 (INCORPORATED)  
 LUMBER—BUILDING MATERIALS  
 GENERAL MILLWORK

MAIN OFFICE—PHONE 168  
 201 S. POMONA AVE.  
 FULLERTON, CALIF.

H. F. MOORE

# Death Takes W. T. B

## Aged Lumber Merchant Funeral Service Friday

### Had Been Resident of City Since 1899 and Taken Active Part in Civic Life

William Thomas Brown, 81, resident of Fullerton since 1899 and of California since 1877, succumbed early today at his home, 111 S. Pomona ave., to a long illness. For 34 years he had been active in civic and fraternal life of Fullerton and was one of the Brown and Dauser company, lumber dealers.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Alice E. Brown, and three daughters and one son. The daughters are Mrs. Katherine B. Butler, La Habra; Mrs. Mabel B. Butler, also of La Habra;

Estelle Brown of Fullerton, in charge of his father's property. Nine grandchildren and seven great grandchildren survive. The grandchildren are Dorothy Stinchfield, Dorothy Stinchfield, Lorin Stinchfield, Douglas Stinchfield, Allen Butler, Paul Butler, Bruce Butler and Grant Butler. The great grandchildren are Bruce Fadgett, Donald Fadgett, Lawrence Brown, Jean Brown, Robert McGill, Roger McGill, Patricia McGill. His daughter, the late Mrs. Dorothy Stinchfield of Los Angeles, was married to Albert Waldo Brown, who died in Venezuela in 1923.

Mr. Brown was born in Fort Valley near Macon, Ga., Sept. 13, 1853. W. T. Brown was the fifth of nine children. He moved with his father to Fullerton at an early age to work for the Southern Pacific. From 1873 to 1877 he lived in Ellensburg, Wash. He came to San Francisco in 1877 and to Los Angeles in 1878. In the same

year he went to Downey, Calif., with his brother, Kay, who had preceded him to California. W. T. Brown obtained his first job in this state on the Venable and Cheyney ranch and the first pay envelope containing \$3 was carefully put away to be used as a nest egg and only in case of actual necessity. The same money had been carefully saved throughout his life and was still in his possession.

An experience of the early days was accompanying a party taking a band of cattle and sheep from Southern California to Prescott, Ariz., in 1873. The trip required three months. Later, he worked for a month as bookkeeper for Abe Jacoby, one of the Jacoby Brothers of Los Angeles, before starting to work for the Southern Pacific company.

In the early days of Southern California he was associated with such men as General Phineas Banning, E. A. McDonald, Capt. J. S. Polhamus of shipbuilding, Charles Keyes, Don Davis, Alex-

ander, B. D. Wilson, J. N. Van Nuys, George Hinds, Governor Downey, Don Juan Forster, Jot-Nam Bixby.

Following many years with the Southern Pacific at Wilmington and in the Imperial Valley, he was appointed agent at Santa Ana in 1877. In 1866 he became manager of the John M. Griffith Lumber company at Anaheim, a position he held until 1899 when with Ben Dauser he purchased the lumber interests and mill of T. S. Grimshaw in Fullerton under the firm name of Brown and Dauser company and although Dauser withdrew from the firm about 1904, leaving the entire ownership to Brown, the firm name was retained. The business since has increased in scope to include citrus orchards as well as lumber.

On April 17, 1878, he married Isabel Campbell of London, Ontario, Canada, and to this union six children were born, four of whom survive. Isabel Campbell Brown died in Anaheim in 1888 and on Oct. 9, 1895, he married Alice E. Beasley of Sidney, Australia, who survives him.

Always actively interested in civic affairs, Brown was one of five men who personally guaranteed the cost of the first street lights in Fullerton. He was a charter member of the chamber of commerce organized in 1899 and had always maintained membership since that time. In 1912 he was one of five road commissioners appointed to serve during the paving program for the city, acting with B. G. Backcom, C. C. Chapman, W. L. Hale and John A. Trudd.

The present location of the Fullerton Union High School was the site of the first effort of Brown to improve the town. From 1878 to 1880 he served as a member of the board of trustees